

**Claims as Amended**  
(Including All Pending Claims For Completeness)

1           47. (**Amended Herein - Twice Amended**) A method for permanent  
2 decorative enhancement of a polyethylene surface of a molded polyethylene article,  
3 which method comprises the steps of:

4           (a) incorporating a decorative enhancement composition to said  
5 polyethylene surface wherein said decorative enhancement  
6 composition consists essentially of:

7           (1) a liquid carrier that provides the decorative enhancement  
8 composition with a consistency and viscosity necessary for  
9 application by liquid methods of application; and

10          (2) a first mixture consisting essentially of:

11           (A) a colorant to impart a surface color; and

12           (B) a second mixture consisting essentially of:

13           (i) a binder to provide adhesion of the decorative  
14 enhancement composition to said polyethylene  
15 surface; and

16           (ii) a particulate thermoplastic powder that is adapted  
17 to fuse into and form a permanent bond **of the**  
18 **decorative enhancement composition as a**  
19 **whole** with the molded polyethylene article;  
20 and  
21

21 (b) heating said decorative enhancement composition and said molded  
22 polyethylene article to produce a molded polyethylene article  
23 having a permanent decoratively enhanced surface characterized  
24 by a colorant on and in said polyethylene surface of said molded  
25 polyethylene article.

1 48. The method of Claim 47 wherein said molded polyethylene article is a  
2 preformed molded polyethylene article.

1 49. The method of Claim 48 wherein said incorporating step is  
2 accomplished by applying said decorative enhancement composition to said preformed  
3 molded polyethylene article.

1 50. The method of Claim 49 wherein said heating step is accomplished by  
2 heating said decorative enhancement composition and said preformed molded  
3 polyethylene article to a temperature and for a time sufficient to fuse said decorative  
4 enhancement composition to said preformed molded polyethylene article.

1 51. The method of Claim 47 wherein said liquid carrier comprises 20 to 90  
2 weight percent of said decorative enhancement composition.

1 52. The method of Claim 47 wherein said first mixture of said colorant,  
2 said binder, and said particulate thermoplastic powder collectively comprise 10 to 80  
3 weight percent of said decorative enhancement composition.

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1                    53. The method of Claim 52 wherein said colorant comprises 9 to 50  
2 weight percent of said first mixture and said binder and said particulate thermoplastic  
3 powder collectively comprises 50 to 91 weight percent of said first mixture.

1                    54. The method of Claim 53 wherein said binder comprises 30 to 70  
2 weight percent of said second mixture and is selected from the group consisting of  
3 hydrocarbon resins, petroleum, synthetic waxes, emulsifiable waxes, rosins, rosin-  
4 esters, terpene based resins, and chlorinated polyolefin resins.

1                    55. (Amended) The method of Claim 53 wherein said particulate  
2 thermoplastic powder comprises 70 to 30 weight percent of said second mixture and is  
3 selected from the group consisting of polyethelene, polypropylene, and ethylene-vinyl  
4 acetate co-polymers wherein said powder has a density from 0.88 to 0.97 and a particle  
5 size no greater than 140 microns diameter.